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Thursday, August 1, 2013

THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Energy drink makers on defensive at US Senate hearing



WASHINGTON (AFP) - WASHINGTON - The multi-billion-dollar global energy drink industry joined forces on Capitol Hill on Wednesday to fight off growing claims that their caffeine-rich products are hazardous to young people's health.

Senior executives from Monster Beverage, Red Bull and Rockstar told the US Senate's Commerce Committee that they do not pitch their drinks at children, despite their aggressive use of social media and sponsorship of action sports.

"Monster is, and always has been, committed to ensuring that all of the ingredients in its energy drinks, including caffeine, are safe and in regulatory compliance for their intended use," Monster Beverage chief executive Rodney Sacks said.

Energy drinks are a small but growing segment in the non-alcoholic beverage industry in the United States, but health experts have expressed concern that their caffeine content poses risks

in youngsters as heart arrhythmia and higher blood pressure.

Last month, the American Medical Association called for a ban on the marketing of energy drinks to children and teenagers, said Senator Jay Rockefeller, the commerce committee chairman, at the start of the hearing.

He stated that in the first six months of this year, poison control centers in the United States received about 1,500 reports involving energy drinks, "more than half of which involved children under the age of 18."

Sitting in the hearing room was Wendy Crossland, who in October 2012 sued Monster Beverage after her daughter Anais Fournier died in December 2011 after consuming two 24-ounce cans of Monster energy drink within 24 hours.

The cause of death, according to the girls' doctors in Maryland, was caffeine toxicity.

Continued on pg 5

And they're off!! Bittersweet moments at the Reina Beatrix International Airport



The saying "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step" was certainly true for 225 young Arubans off to Holland to attend institutions of higher learning. This 6,000 mile journey began with a step onto a plane, complements of the Ministry of Education, and many hugs, kisses and a river of tears, as many island parents are bidding their children goodbye for the first time.

Tears flow on both sides as the freshman students go off into the big, wide world, in a most memorable manner. Many have never left Aruba before, much less their parents loving protection, and it is a dramatic and definitive step to adulthood.

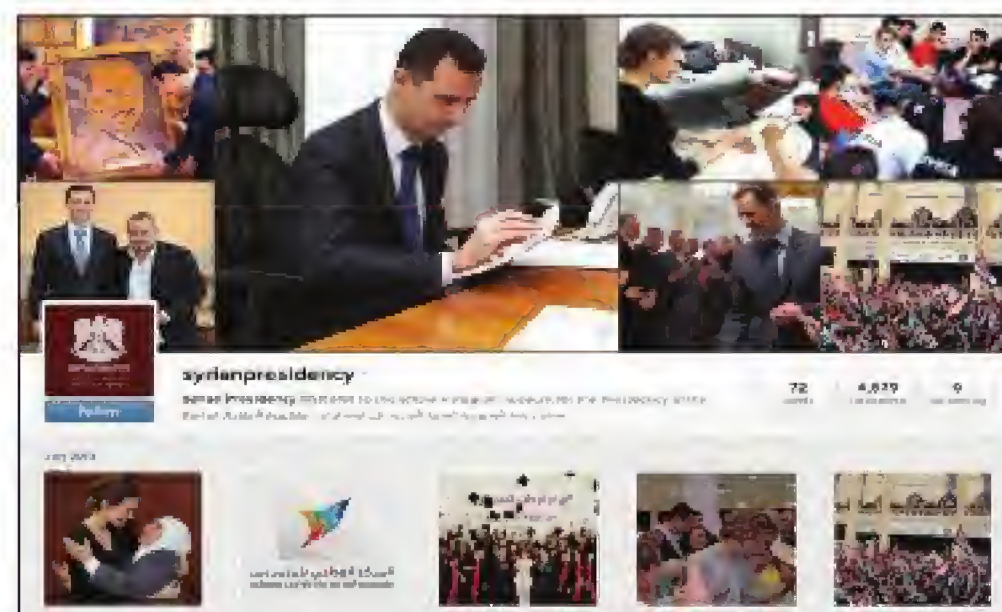
This annual and emotion ritual takes place on the side-

walk fronting the Reina Beatrix International Airport, often accompanied by sib-

lings, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Continued on pg 2

US calls Assad Instagram account 'repulsive'



(see story on pg 6)

Pointers to Ponder

By Tony Green

Election Campaigns...

See pg 3

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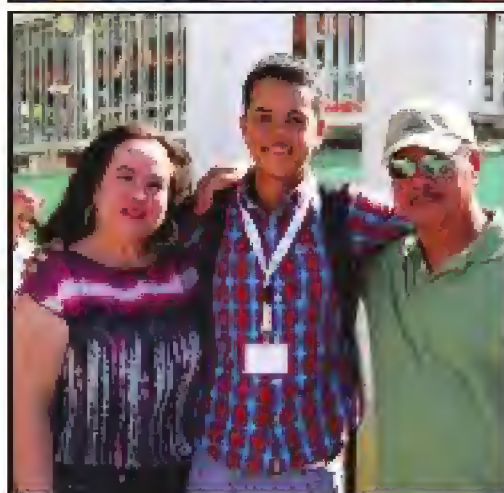
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And they're off!!

Continued from pg 1



nity and the family nest. Most will not return to Aruba until the end of the school year, some not at all, as they settle into life in Holland, find jobs and significant others, and set down roots far from their home island.

THE MORNING NEWS staff wishes all the new students the greatest success in Holland, with the hope they eventually return to use their educations for the benefit of their island.

By Rosalie Klein



Saying goodbye is a poignant moment filled with hopes and trepidation, as the youth leave behind the close island commu-



THE MORNING NEWS wishes all our students good luck and may the good Lord keep them safe!

Aruba's Weather Update!

WEATHER PROGNOSTIC VALID TILL THURSDAY AFTERNOON 5:00 PM

AUGUST 01 2013



COMPILED: WEDNESDAY JULY 31 2013 17:00 (21:00 UTC)

WEATHER: PARTLY CLOUDY TO MOSTLY SUNNY AND DRY.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE 33 CENTIGRADE Y MINIMUM TEMPERATURE 28 CENTIGRADE.
 SUN UP 06:26 AM SUN DOWN 07:06 PM.

WIND: STRONG WINDS DIRECTION EAST AVERAGE 20 KTS GUSTING UP TO 30 KTS.

GENERAL SITUATION: DRY AIR IS PREVAILING OVER OUR FORECAST AREA.

EXPECT WIND INCREASE ON FRIDAY DUE TO STONGER PRESSURE GRADIENT.

MARINE CONDITIONS: WAVE DIRECTION WILL BE EAST WITH WAVE HEIGHTS BETWEEN 4 TO 6 FEET.

TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: NOTHING OF SIGNIFICANCE

EXPECTATIONS FOR NEXT WEEK: RAINFALL WILL BE BELOW NORMAL.

WINDS WILL BE NORMAL.
 TEMPERATURE WILL BE NORMAL.

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Cannes victim of new hold-up days after luxury hotel heist

CANNES (AFP) - The French Riviera resort of Cannes was once again the scene of a hold-up on Wednesday, just three days after a man robbed an up-market hotel in one of the world's biggest jewellery heists.

Local prosecutors said two men armed with a grenade and gun burst into a store selling luxury watches and made off with 100 to 150 items, just a couple of blocks away from the Carlton hotel, the scene of a record \$136 million (103 million euro) robbery on Sunday.

The glamorous Mediterranean resort has fallen prey to thieves several times this year, notably during the film festival in May, which attracted a glittering array of movie stars.

Wednesday's theft at the Kronometry store has been valued at "one to 1.5 million euros", prosecutors in the nearby city of Grasse said.



Pointers to Ponder

Tony A.D. Green www.people-self-development.com



The Ups and Downs of Election Campaigns!



Aruba is currently in the heat of an election campaign. Election Day is scheduled for Friday, September 27th when everyone eligible to vote will go to the polls and cast their sacred vote.

In the meantime, politicians and politicians to be are doing their utmost to get the attention of voters and to convince them to give them the vote. As we look on and observe the process, we can't help but notice what I call the "Ups and Downs" of the election period.

Let's take a quick look today at the "Ups" and in next issue we'll explore the "Downs." To some observers there are perhaps only "downs" but that is not realistic because there are some

things that can be considered positive or at least beneficial to us in the entire process.

For starters, this campaigning does give us an opportunity to see candidates up close and to interact with them on an individual level. Prior to the campaigning, these men and women hid themselves for the most part in their offices and appeared in public mostly for photo shoots or press meetings. Today, they are out on the front line touching shoulders with everyone they meet.

Secondly, citizens get long overdue recognition for their pivotal role in the past years of government. Politicians finally put the spotlight on what was accomplished due mostly by the support of citi-



zens. It is during election campaigns that you hear statements like... "without your support, we couldn't have done thus and so, and now we need you to continue giving us that support for..."

Yet a third "Up" during this process is the opportunity we get to voice opinions at forums and political rallies. Here we can meaningfully

engage the politician and hopefully inject some new idea for his next term in office.

To some people, there is still one more up, and that is the opportunity to attend the political "parties" replete with food and drinks for all. People go to these events to be well fed and enjoy themselves above all else with ab-

solutely no intention of contributing to the candidate's success.

Whatever you think of political campaigns, here is my simple take on what can be considered "ups" in the process. Mind you, you may even have more that you can add as "ups." By the way, would you consider the decoration of green, yellow and red flags along our streets peering from tree tops and roof tops and highways an "up?" They at least give the landscape a bright appeal and the feeling of enthusiasm! Next time we'll look at the "downs."

If this was helpful, feel free to let me know at: tony-green.morningnews@hotmail.com.



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Opening tonight at Cas di Cultura: "Hoe duur was de Suiker" - "How Dear was the Sugar?"



Jonathan Vieira, Cynthia McLeod and John Leerdam

The Cas di Cultura was proud to welcome Suriname author Cynthia McLeod, author of the international bestseller, "Hoe duur was de Suiker," or "How Expensive was the Sugar?" for the Caribbean opening of the musical and dance review based on her



book. The premiere will take place tonight at the Cas di Cultura in Oranjestad, with shows tomorrow and Saturday evening, August 1

novel. Among the cast members if one of the most popular singing stars of the Dutch Caribbean, Izaline Calister of Curacao.

Her book was published by Vaco in 1937 in Paramaribo, Suriname, after McLeod conducted extensive research in Holland. The first print was sold out within a few weeks and she became the most famous Surinamese novelist overnight. Later, this historical novel about slavery and the sugar cane industry in the 18th century was published under license by her Dutch publisher Conserve. She followed up her successful first endeavor with other historical sagas.

McLeod was born in Paramaribo as Cynthia Ferrier. She is the daughter of Johan Ferrier, the first President of Suriname. She met her husband Dr. Donald McLeod, while attending university in the Netherlands. They returned to Suriname, where

tually became the Ambassador to Belgium and the U.S.

Ms. McLeod explained that "the dear, or expensive price of sugar, produced by slaves on Caribbean plantations, was in human lives." Her stories also relate to modern forms of slavery and human trafficking. The program is particularly pertinent at this time, as 2013 is the 150th anniversary of slavery being abolished in Holland and the Dutch Caribbean.

The program is being brought to Aruba by the Stichting Julius Leeft, (SJL!) dedicated to promulgating culture in Holland and the Dutch Caribbean. Founder of Julius Leeft and dramatist John Leerdam introduced young Arubans who have been participating in work-



Noted cast members

mination of their workshops and seminars in scripting, performing and theatrical production, during a press conference with the show's cast yesterday morning.

Two final classes will be conducted during the company's visit: A Dance Master class on August 3 from 10:00

During the press conference to introduce the multinational cast of performers from Holland and the Dutch Caribbean, John Leerdam emphasized it has always been the practice of the SJL! to combine quality theater with educational opportunities in cultural pursuits. They



Choral Group Ars Nova

shops with the visiting artists and performers since last week through the Fundacion

AM until 1:00 PM by Faazah Grootens and Ayaovi Kokousse, titled "Caribbean Contemporary." Cost of the class is 25 Aruban florins and only 20 students will be accepted. Openings are still available.

Another final class will also take place on Saturday for those interested in acting, with Vastert van Aardenne, Paulette Smit and John Leerdam. This is for intermediate to advanced students ages 14 to 18 years. It will last from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. The cost is 25 Aruban florins and a minimum of six students is required; the max allowed will be 16.

also strive to involve local talent as much as possible, and performing with the traveling cast is Aruban choral group Ars Nova.

Tickets can be purchased in the offices of the Cas di Cultura to purchase tickets and sign up for classes. Tickets for the performances are 50 Aruban florins can also be purchased at Van Dorp and Plaza Bookstores. The final performance on Saturday, August 3, will be immediately followed by the famous cast members performing in concert on the Cas di Cultura stage.

By Rosalie Klein



Young Arubans participating in the workshops

through 3. The program includes a star-studded cast in the musical adaptation for the stage of her famous debut

she was a teacher and he was eventually appointed as Suriname's Ambassador to Venezuela in 1978. He even-

Desaroyo Educacional Aruba, or FDEC. They offered a sampling of their mini-show that was the cul-

Energy drink makers on defensive...

Continued from pg 1

In his thick South African accent, Monster Beverage's Sacks argued that, at 160 milligrams, a 16-ounce can of Monster Energy - its best-selling product - had just under half the caffeine of a similar-sized cup of Starbucks coffee.

"The safety of caffeine and other ingredients in Monster energy drinks is well established by an overwhelming body of generally accepted literature published by reputable third parties," he said.

He also stated that Monster's primary demographic is young adult males, and that it "does not focus its brand initiatives on young teenagers" - although a sponsors a so-called Monster Army to support and develop teen athletes.

Red Bull North America vice president Amy Taylor said Red Bull products, first launched in Europe in 1987 and now sold in more than 165 countries, are sophisticated premium beverages aimed squarely at adults.

She used Wednesday's hearing to announce that it would limit to 30 milligrams per 8.4 ounces the amount of caffeine in its drinks, and that it would never use child- or teen-oriented characters in its animated "Red Bull gives you wings" advertisements.

But she was caught off-guard when Senator Ed Markey of Massachusetts drew attention to a post on Red Bull's Instagram feed that recommended that consumers wash down a sleeping pill with a can of Red Bull and then "let the battle begin."

"It shouldn't have been messaged," she said.

Rockstar co-owner Janet Weiner said she felt "victimized" by the negative attention being given to energy drinks, but promised - as did Sacks and Taylor - to review her company's social media sites and pull down any posts that encourage unhealthy consumption of energy drinks.

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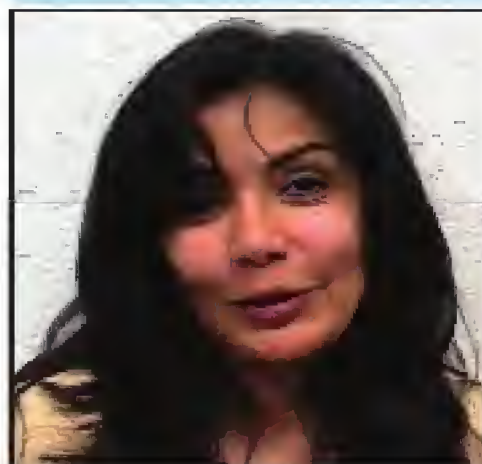
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Mexico to detain 'Queen of the Pacific' over drugs



MEXICO CITY (AFP) - Mexico will detain Sandra Avila Beltran, known as the "Queen of the Pacific" for her links to the drug trade, after the United

States deports her, an official said Wednesday.

The government official, who requested anonymity, said Avila Beltran faces an investigation into a scheme to launder money through real estate purchases.

Last week, a US judge sentenced her to 70 months in prison but she was due to be released due to time already served in Mexico and the United States.

She had been convicted of being an accessory after the fact in keeping a drug lord

from being apprehended.

A prominent figure in Mexico's infamous Sinaloa cartel, Avila Beltran, 52, reached a plea deal that resulted in the sole charge.

Avila Beltran was sentenced for being an accessory after the fact in helping her former boyfriend -- Colombian Juan Diego Espinosa, nicknamed "El Tigre" -- avoid arrest.

He had served as a key liaison between the Sinaloa and Colombia's Norte del Valle cartel.

Avila Beltran was arrested on September 28, 2007, south of Mexico City. Her lawyers had previously won three appeals to avoid her extradition.

She had been accused of belonging to a trafficking organization dedicated to buying and transporting drugs between Colombia and the United States from at least January 1999 to March 2004, Mexican prosecutors had said.

Avila Beltran gained notoriety by smiling for the cameras and inspiring books and even a well-known ballad.



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Seven die, 41 are hospitalized in Cuba after drinking methanol

HAVANA (AFP) - Seven people died and 41 were hospitalized in Havana after drinking illegally sold lab alcohol, the Cuban Health Ministry said Wednesday.

Six men and one woman have died, and eight hospitalized patients are in critical condition, the provincial health directorate of Havana said in a statement released by the official news agency Prensa Latina.

The methanol was stolen from a state laboratory by two employees and sold by a woman in Havana's western neighborhood of La Lisa, the statement said.

"Due to its characteristics, it is difficult to differentiate from ethyl alcohol, which can lead to the occurrence of un-

fortunate accidents," the note said. Ethyl alcohol is what gives alcoholic beverages their intoxicating characteristics.

Methanol, also known as methyl alcohol or wood alcohol, is commonly used for chemical reactions in science laboratories.

The substance is "highly toxic to the human body, and its consumption can lead to serious consequences such as blindness and even death," the text said.

Many Cubans -- who earn an average of less than 20 dollars a month -- buy food and drink of unknown origin on the black market because it is cheaper, making poisonings a grim reality of everyday life.

US calls Assad Instagram account 'repulsive'

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States on Wednesday denounced as "repulsive" an Instagram site by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, saying it did not reflect the reality of the civil war.

The embattled Syrian leader's office took to the social media site to post pictures that include Assad greeting supporters and his wife Asma comforting the injured.

"This is nothing more than a despicable PR stunt," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf told reporters.

"It's repulsive that the Assad regime would use this to gloss over the brutality and suffering it's causing," she said.

Harf said the Instagram account ignored the "horrific atrocities" in Homs and elsewhere in Syria.

"We would encourage people to take a look at unfiltered photos of what's actually happening on the ground," Harf said.

Comments on the Instagram account praise the secular-minded Assad for fighting "terrorism" and Islamists and criticize foreign media coverage of the conflict.

However, occasional comments on the account -- instagram.com/syrianpresidency -- blamed Assad for civilian deaths.

Users need to follow the account to leave comments, providing a way to remove critical remarks.



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After leaks, US declassifies surveillance order

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Obama administration on Wednesday declassified a court order authorizing the collection of US phone records, even as it faced new disclosures about the reach of its secret electronic surveillance.

Under mounting pressure from lawmakers, Deputy Attorney General James Cole said the order spells out how the government can use call data obtained from telecom giants like Verizon.

Cole told senators that the order "provides that the government can search the data only if it has reasonable articulable suspicion that the telephone number being searched is associated with certain terrorist organiza-

tions."

Administration officials confirm that an order to compile phone metadata was issued to a subsidiary of Verizon Communications in April, the Washington Post reported.

A footnote clarifies that "telephone metadata does not include the substantive content of any communication... or the name, address, or financial information of a subscriber or customer."

The order was among three secret documents declassified by the office of Director of National Intelligence James Clapper, which said Clapper "determined that the release of these documents is in the public interest."

The move to confront growing opposition to the secret programs came as the administration faced new disclosures from Edward Snowden, the former intelligence contractor at the center of the controversy.

The latest documents obtained by him and published by British daily the Guardian revealed a secret surveillance system known as XKeyscore that allows US intelligence to monitor "nearly everything a typical user does on the Internet."

Snowden, who is now stranded in the transit area of a Moscow airport, fled the United States after downloading NSA files that have formed the basis of one bombshell leak after another.

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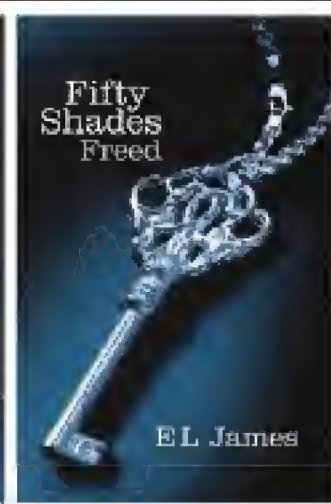
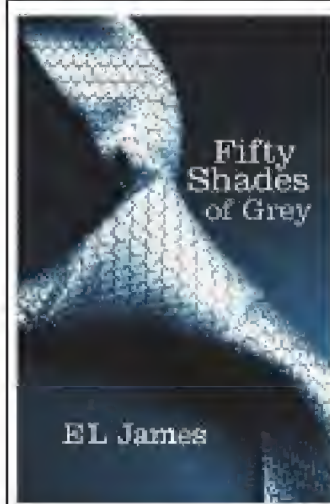


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International News

'Fifty Shades' a must read for Guantanamo detainees



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Sado-masochistic best-seller "50 Shades of Grey" is popular reading among high-value detainees at Guantanamo, officials told a visiting congressional delegation.

"Rather than the Koran, the book that is requested most by the (Camp Seven detainees) is 'Fifty Shades of Grey,'" House Democrat Jim Moran said, in comments confirmed Wednesday by his spokeswoman.

"They've read the entire series in English," said Moran, who supports moves to close the US detention facility in southeastern Cuba.

The unexpected "Fifty Shades" revelation reportedly came during a tour that delegation members took with the base commander, the chief medical officer, and the officer in charge of once-secret Camp Seven, the most secure part of the Guantanamo facility.

British author E.L. James has sold more than 70 million copies of her erotic romance trilogy of novels, which depict the use of handcuffs and blindfolds during sex.

Camp Seven is maximum security, and its high-value detainees -- including five men accused in the September 11, 2001 terror attacks -- are often hooded and handcuffed when transferred to other parts of the facility.

Journalists are allowed to visit Guantanamo, where detainees have access to censored reading material and movies, but Camp Seven is off limits.

"We don't discuss our high-value detainees except in the most generic terms," Lieutenant Colonel Todd Brasseale told HuffPost. "Further, we do not discuss the assertions made by members of Congress."

President Barack Obama vowed to close the facility when he took office in 2009, but the military prison created in the wake of 9/11 still holds 166 men.

Most held there have never been charged or tried, and 70 detainees were taking part in a hunger strike as of July 23, with 46 of them being fed through nasal tubes, according to the military.

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Aruban students get a scare as welcome in The Netherlands!



INGELUM - On Wednesday, a coach with 33 students from Aruba skidded off the road in Ingelum, The Netherlands, ending partially in the water of the Bitgumer Feart. The bus keeled on its side when it took a turn in the narrow dead-end path. Some students got minor bruises but most only got wet. They were en route to the Cleyn Aiserd camping farm. These students had just left Aruba to continue their studies in The Netherlands.

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Sci-Tech

US declassifies surveillance order amid snooping debate

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Obama administration on Wednesday declassified a court order authorizing collection of millions of US phone records, even as it faced new disclosures about the reach of its secret electronic surveillance programs.

Under mounting pressure from lawmakers, Deputy Attorney General James Cole said the newly declassified order spells out how the government can use the call data obtained from telecom giants like Verizon.

That primary order "provides that the government can search the data only if it has reasonable articulable suspicion that the telephone number being searched is associated with certain terrorist organizations."

The move to confront growing public and congressional opposition to the secret programs came as the administration faced new disclosures from Edward Snowden, the former intelligence contractor at the heart of the controversy.

The latest documents obtained by him and published by the British daily the Guardian revealed the existence of a secret surveillance system known as XKeyscore that allows US intelligence to monitor "nearly everything a typical user does on the Internet."

The Guardian said the hitherto secret program was the most wide-reaching operated by the National Security Agency.

XKeyscore's existence proved the truth of Snowden's earlier claim, denied by some

US officials, that before he quit the NSA he could "wire-tap anyone, from you or your accountant, to a federal judge or even the president, if I had a personal email," it said.

Since he disclosed the vast scale of the electronic surveillance operations in June, public sentiment in the US has shifted against them.

Officials said the data gathered from the program has contributed to the disruption of 54 terror threats or events, including 13 on US soil.

Deputy FBI director Sean Joyce insisted that the telephone data program, authorized by the Patriot Act that came into law shortly after the 9/11 attacks of 2001, has played a crucial role in "closing the gaps and seams" of intelligence gathering.

Australia's new supercomputer a boon for climate scientists



SYDNEY (AFP) - Australia's most powerful computer was unveiled Wednesday, in a boost for climate scientists who need to crunch vast amounts of data to make forecasts and pinpoint extreme weather, officials said.

The Australian National University in Canberra has

named the supercomputer Raijin after the Japanese god of thunder, lightning and storms.

Lindsay Botten, director of the ANU's National Computational Infrastructure centre where the computer is housed, said the machine can handle complex simulations and modelling much faster and at a

higher resolution than previously available in Australia.

Predicting extreme weather, which Australia frequently experiences, required millions of lines of code and complex information to be processed in an instant, said Andy Pitman from the Centre of Excellence for Climate System Science.

The machine, estimated to be the 27th most powerful computer in the world, weighs 70 tonnes and has 57,000 processing cores (the equal of about 15,000 laptop computers) and 160 terabytes of memory (the equivalent of about 30,000 laptops).

The supercomputer was funded as part of Australia's infrastructure-building stimulus package in the wake of the global financial crisis.

7 arrested in murder of Costa Rican environmentalist



SAN JOSÉ (AFP) - Costa Rican police arrested seven people Wednesday in connection with the murder of an environmentalist who was killed protecting sea turtle nesting areas from poachers. Jairo Mora, 26, was shot dead on May 31, after being intercepted on Moin beach by a group of hooded men. Mora worked on a conservation project sponsored by local environmental group Eco Paradero and international organization Widecast.

Uruguay Congress begins marijuana legalization debate

MONTEVIDEO (AFP) - Uruguay's lower house Wednesday began debate on a bill legalizing marijuana, which for the first time would put a government in charge of the production, sale and distribution of the drug. Under current law, possession of marijuana for personal use is permitted in Uruguay, although it is up to judges to determine what quantity is considered appropriate for personal use. The bill specifies that the government would assume control and regulation of the importation, planting, cultivation, harvesting, production, acquisition, storage, marketing and distribution of marijuana and its derivatives. Those using the drug would be able to cultivate up to six plants, gain access to the drug as part of a marijuana-growing club or purchase up to 40 grams per month at a dispensary. President Jose Mujica has backed the bill.

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If you think you're experi-



the most severe.

Causes of heat exhaustion include exposure to high temperatures, particularly when combined with high humidity, and strenuous physical activity.

Possible heat exhaustion symptoms include:

*Cool, moist skin with goose bumps when in the heat

*Heavy sweating
*Faintness
*Dizziness

encing heat exhaustion:

*Stop all activity and rest
*Move to a cooler place
*Drink cool water or sports drinks

Contact your doctor if your signs or symptoms worsen or if they don't improve within one hour.

Untreated, heat exhaustion can lead to heatstroke, a life-threatening condition that occurs when your body temperature reaches 104 F (40 C) or higher.

Hepatitis...beware and prevent the disease

-- Last weekend Hepatitis Day was observed and now is a good time to put the focus on this potentially deadly virus that we are all vulnerable to. Hepatitis is a silent epidemic which kills 2 persons every minute around the world. According to official data of our Health Monitor, there are 34 registered cases of Hepatitis B per year on Aruba.

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver usually caused by the infection of a virus. We are familiar with 5 types of Hepatitis known as A, B, C, D and Hepatitis E. Hepatitis E is the most dangerous which could cause chronic damage to the liver, cirrosis and can even become cancer of the liver. In the American continent 8 to 11 million persons suffer from chronic Hepatitis B and another 7 million from Hepatitis C.

Hepatitis B causes the virus HBV to be detected in the liver at first, but also in the blood and in certain corporal liquids. In the world there are reportedly some 350 million persons infected with the virus which causes a total of 620 thousand deaths per year.

In Aruba, of the 35 cases of Hepatitis B detected per year, during the past five years the peak of registration was in 2009. The majority of cases in Aruba are imported and are in the category of patients between the ages of 25 to 44 years.

As a preventive means, the government of Aruba as a rule has a protocol that requires all babies be vaccinated against Hepatitis B. The Department for Contagious Diseases requires all professionals at risk to be vaccinated. These are professionals in public health and public security...all Ambulance personnel, Police, Firefighters, and Prison Guards. Students traveling abroad, sexual partners of HIV carriers and HIV patients are all required to be vaccinated against the virus.

The fact that no symptoms are felt in the early stages multiplies the replication of the

disease around the world. Prevention is a primary factor especially when working in high risk groups. Proper hygiene is an important matter. Wash all fruits and vegetables well. Wash hands after using a bathroom. Beware of piercing needles for body piercings or tattoo's. Use protection for sexual encounters, especially with non regular partners.

The government of Aruba is convinced that like with all other contagious diseases Hepatitis B can be prevented. We must live conscious and protect ourselves. Hepatitis may be closer to us than we think.



COMICS

PICKLES



MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBS



CROSSWORD

FREE Coverage on our website:
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ACROSS

1. Sea inlet
4. Hemmed and
9. School org.
12. Sound of disapproval
13. Elicit
14. Cut branches
15. Charged atom
16. Pathways
17. Ingested
18. Web letters (hyph.)
20. Not outer
22. Tippler
23. Goof up
24. "What happens in

27. Invent (2 wds.)
31. Follower (suffix)
32. Boxing results (abbr.)
33. Half a fly
34. Circus performer
37. Prefer
39. Map marking (abbr.)
40. Received
41. Genuflect
44. Waking devices
48. Exclamation of refusal
49. Corrective eye surgery
52. Suffer poor health
53. "Sentimental

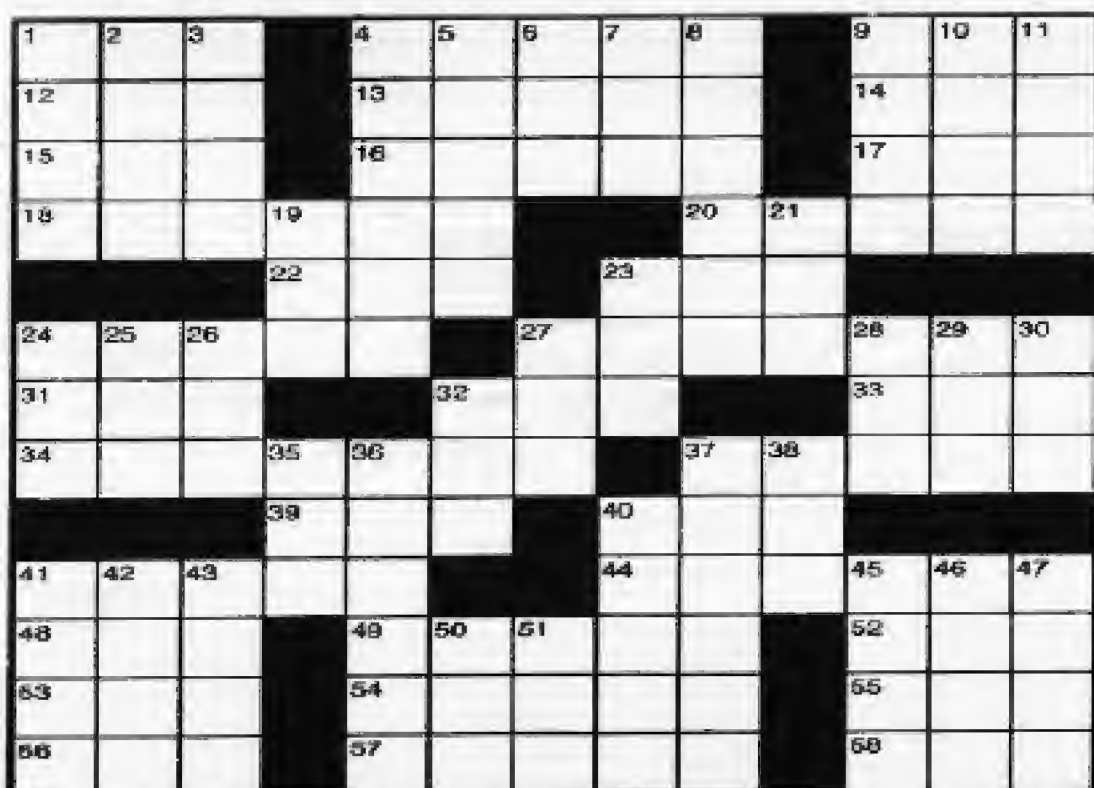
Mood" (2 wds.)

54. Leaves out
55. Intense rage
56. Sawyer
57. Fuddled
58. Homer's wholesome neighbor

DOWN

1. Irish Rose's mate
2. Hotel offering
3. Lisa of the Louvre
4. Words of greeting
5. Sailor's cry
6. Came in first
7. Get by
8. Yearning
9. Outline
10. Beach bag
11. Mocker

19. "This recording" (2 wds.)
21. '30s relief agency (abbr.)
23. Trauma centers (abbr.)
24. By way of
25. And so on (abbr.)
26. Where Munich is (abbr.)
27. Speckle
28. Rock video channel
29. GI's club
30. Pay-___-view
32. Kit ___ Club ("Cabaret")
35. Flamenco dancer's cry
36. Voting sheet
37. Like Grandma Moses paintings
38. ___ crossroads (2 wds.)
40. Canter and gallop, e.g.
41. Make a sweater
42. Spanish boy
43. Doctor's checkup, e.g.
45. Gloomy forecast
46. Bog down
47. Arctic taxi
50. "Who ___ kidding?" (2 wds.)
51. Taste champagne



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Center for Hemodialysis
Posada Clinic Aruba
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INFORMATION
Telephone 118

Twelve Step Meetings
24 hours helpline 583-8989

Fellowship Clinic S.N.
Free treatment of
Alcoholism
and Drug Addiction
Anonymity guaranteed
Tel. 584-5440

SOS TELEAYUDO SOS
Telephone Helpline
583-1190
Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn.
Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE
Alzheimer's Day
Care Center
Tel: 5696910

Important
Telephone
Numbers

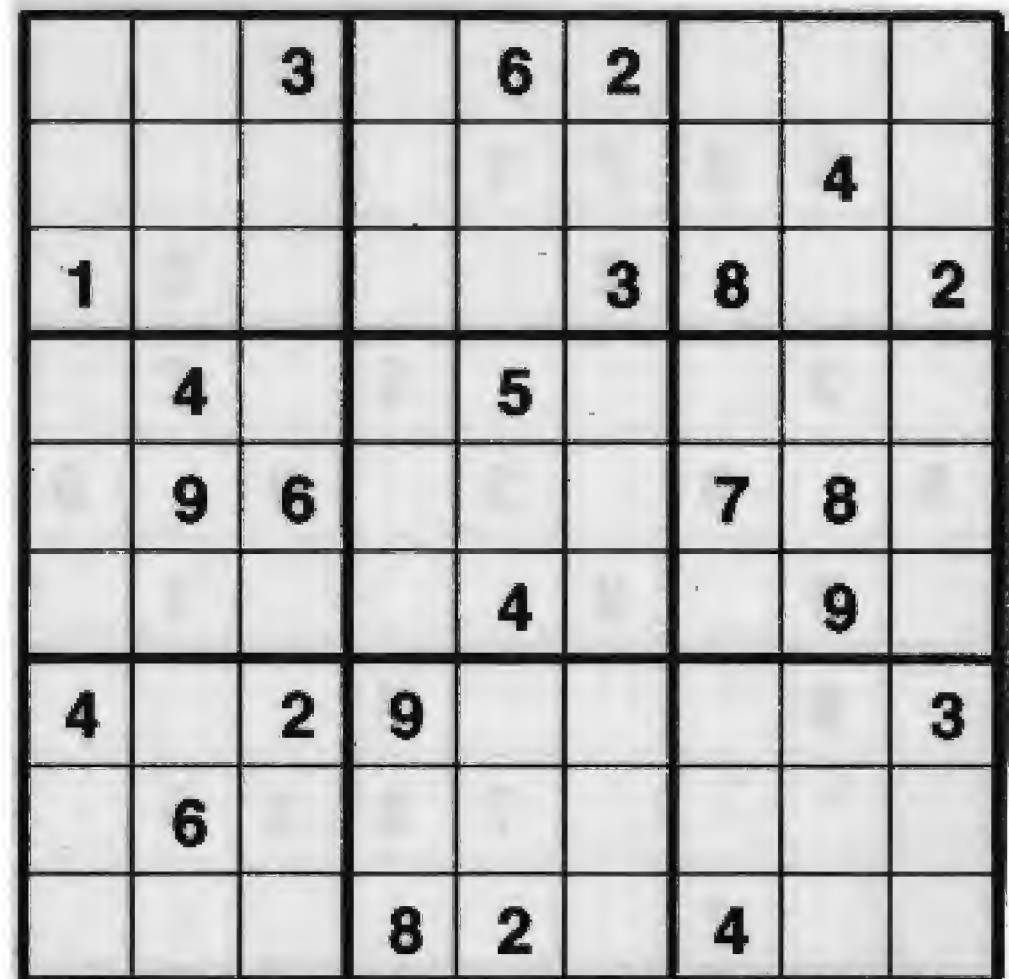
HOSPITAL
Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. 527-4000

EMERGENCY
Telephone 911
POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

TAXI
C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604
582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings
Mondays 6-7pm
Sabana Liber 8 in Noord
Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

Sudoku



SOLUTION

8	9	7	8	2	8	2	1	6
6	2	1	7	2	6	5	9	6
6	2	9	5	1	6	2	8	7
9	8	5	9	7	2	1	6	2
7	8	2	1	6	2	9	8	5
1	6	2	6	5	9	8	7	2
2	9	8	6	8	7	7	2	1
5	7	2	2	9	1	6	2	9
2	1	6	2	9	7	6	5	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



Lunch Buffet

Saturday - Sunday
12:00 - 3 p.m.

Dinner

Monday - Sunday
6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Palm Beach Center - Palm Beach Aruba - Tel: 5860944

Air France says plans to cut 2,500 jobs next year

PARIS (AFP) - Air France on Wednesday confirmed its intention to cut around 2,500 jobs in 2014 as part of a wide-ranging restructuring drive that has already seen thousands take voluntary redundancy.

The airline has been struggling to cope with the rise of low-cost airlines and competition from Middle Eastern and Asian carriers.

A spokesman said the proposed cuts would be made without forced redundancies, saying the exact amount "will be discussed and quantified with unions this fall. It could be a little more than half of the redundancies identified in 2012."

The measure is part of a major restructuring drive called Transform 2015, which has already seen more than 5,000 employees take voluntary redundancy.

The news comes after the company's CGT union branch earlier Wednesday said management had broken the news to employee representatives at a works council meeting.

The restructuring drive has helped parent company Air France-KLM cut huge losses although it says more cost-saving is needed.

The group last week announced net losses of 793 million euros (\$1.05 billion) for the first half of 2013, against wider losses of 1.27 billion euros in the first half of last year.

Brazil government to invest \$3.6 billion in Sao Paulo



SAO PAULO (AFP) - Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff on Wednesday announced \$3.6 billion in federal investments in infrastructure projects in Sao Paulo, the country's economic capital and most populous city. The biggest share -- \$1.3 billion -- is to go to urban mobility projects while the rest will finance drainage works, water recuperation and housing programs. Rousseff made the announcement here at a ceremony attended by Sao Paulo Mayor Fernando Haddad. "To guarantee fast, safe and quality public transport is one of the axes to combat inequality," she said.

She added that 99 kilometers (59 miles) of bus corridors would be built to complement the existing 126 kilometers (78 miles).

And \$657 million will be allocated to social housing pro-

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - Social networking giant Facebook Wednesday breached its 2012 IPO price of \$38 a share for the first time since the company's May 2012 initial public offering.

Facebook got as high as \$38.31 Wednesday shortly after the market opened, before retreating. Shares recently traded at \$37.68, up 5 cents or 0.1 percent.

The company's IPO was priced at \$38 a share. Facebook has only closed above \$38 one time: its first day on

the markets.

Facebook has been on an upward tear since releasing earnings a week ago that showed a big jump in mobile advertising revenue. Shares have rallied more than 40 percent since the earnings release.

Facebook shares plummeted after the highly anticipated IPO last year and languished, primarily due to doubts about the California-based company's ability to make money from members using mobile devices to get online.

But the most recent earnings report showed that some 41 percent of its ad revenues

came from mobile, compared with 30 percent in the prior quarter and virtually nothing a year ago.

Company officials also boasted that they were able to recoup higher "cost per click" fees from advertisers, a distinction that contrasted with Google and some other technology companies that have seen such fees fall.

Facebook last year directly integrated ads into users' newsfeed, whereas previously they had been segregated onto the right side of the screen and not visible on smartphones.

At the same time, the company has been slow to introduce video ads on its site.

Of Facebook's 1.15 billion monthly users as of June 30, 819 million use a mobile device. Of the 669 million who use the site daily, 469 million use a mobile device, according to Facebook.

US stocks end mixed after Fed statement

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - US stocks Wednesday ended little changed after a busy day of news that included a policy statement from the Federal Reserve and a mixed report on US economic growth.

At the closing bell, the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 15.13 (0.10 percent) at 15,505.46.

The broad-based S&P 500 edged up 0.13 (0.01 percent) to 1,686.09, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index added 9.90 (0.27 percent) at 3,626.37.

Second-quarter US gross domestic product grew 1.7 percent, above the 1.1 percent pace expected by analysts. However, the report also included a steep downgrade in first-quarter GDP growth,

which is now estimated at 1.1 percent instead of 1.8 percent.

Meanwhile, the Federal Reserve's Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) concluded a two-day meeting with a statement that economic growth was at a "modest" pace and pledging to maintain its aggressive bond-buying program. The statement did not give a timetable for scaling back the bond-buying program.

Art Hogan, a managing director at Lazard Capital Markets, rated the Fed's statement as "mildly dovish" and suggesting that the Fed was more likely to taper the program in December than September.

US bond yields retreated after the FOMC statement.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer





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JK Rowling lawyers in charity payout over pseudonym leak



LONDON (AFP) - Harry Potter author JK Rowling on Wednesday accepted a "substantial" donation to charity from the law firm which leaked the fact she had written a crime novel under a pseudonym.

Russells, which specialises in entertainment law, will pay damages to a charity supporting soldiers after admitting exposing her as the author of "The Cuckoo's Calling", published under the name Robert Galbraith.

The multi-millionaire author had brought proceedings at London's High Court against Chris Gossage, a partner at the law firm, and his friend Judith Callegari after a

Sunday Times article revealed the secret.

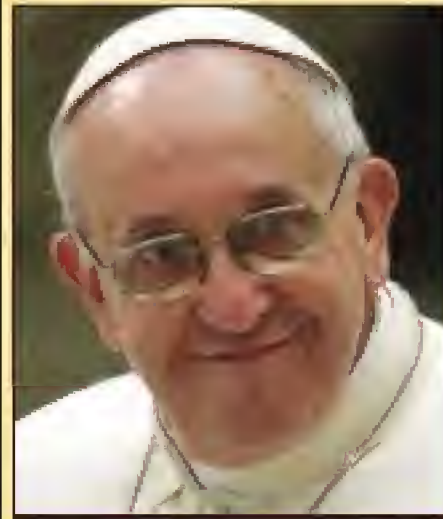
Russells admitted that Gossage had told Callegari about Rowling's authorship, and she in turn had passed the information to a Sunday Times journalist in a Twitter exchange.

Rowling's solicitor, Jenny Afia, told the court that the author "has been left dismayed and distressed by such a fundamental betrayal of trust".

Russells, which had already apologised for the breach of confidence, will also repay Rowling's legal costs.

The firm said its charity payment would be "substantial" but that no further details would be disclosed.

Pope sacks top Slovenian clergy over financial scandal



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Francis on Wednesday sacked Slovenia's two top Catholic clerics over a financial scandal that has reportedly left one archdiocese with a budget shortfall of 800 million euros (\$1.1 billion).

The Vatican said in a statement that the pope had "accepted the resignation" of Archbishop of Ljubljana Anton Stres and the Archbishop of Maribor Marjan Turnsek.

Tiny Slovenia only has two Catholic archdioceses.

Both are leaving under canon law rules for a bishop "who because of illness or some other grave reason has become unsuited for the fulfilment of his office".

Slovenian media quoted by Italian news agency ANSA reported allegations that risky financial mismanagement by the two archbishops had left the archdiocese of Maribor bankrupt.

Turnsek's predecessor in Maribor, Franc Kramberger, was forced to resign in 2011 after the scandal over investments made by the Catholic Church in Slovenia first came to light.



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Oranjestad, Tel : 5884494

At least 10 dead as record heatwave hits Shanghai



SHANGHAI, July 31, 2013 (AFP) - More than 10 people have died in China's commercial hub Shanghai, a local health official said Wednesday as the city grapples with its highest temperatures in at least 140 years.

Much of China is in the grip of a summer heatwave, and the China Meteorological Association issued a high temperature warning for several eastern and central provinces, saying temperatures could reach 41 degrees Celsius (106 Fahrenheit) on Wednesday.

Leng Guangming, a

spokesman at the Shanghai Municipal Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, said there had been at least 10 victims of heat stroke up to last Friday in the city. He declined to give a more precise or more recent number.

City forecasters said temperatures were "rising rapidly" and could reach 40 C in People's Square today.

Experts blame a subtropical high pressure system and a lack of rain for the record-breaking heatwave, according to state media.



PARIS (AFP) - Louis Vuitton, Hermes and Gucci were the top three global luxury brands of 2013, with Fendi and Coach entering the top 10 for the first time, a study said Wednesday. The 2013 BrandZ Top 100, a ranking of the most valuable global brands compiled by research firm MillwardBrown, found luxury firms struggling with the need to balance exclusivity with attracting new customers through use of social media. After a modest purchase, for example, a firm might send a thank you note on twitter while a couture fashion customer might receive an invitation to an exclusive show. Handbag firm Coach owed its position at number 10 on the list to its presence in China where it added 30 stores by the end of 2012, taking its total there to 69.



MADRID (AFP) - Spanish police said Wednesday they have broken up a racket by fraudsters who converted ordinary cars to resemble deluxe models such as Ferraris and sold them on the Internet. Officers raided two garages where the conversions were carried out near the eastern city of Valencia, a police statement said. They arrested eight people suspected of converting and selling the cars and seized 10 cars -- 17 fake Ferraris and two imitation Aston Martins. The suspects "themselves made the fibre-glass pieces to transform the cars" and faked the badges of the deluxe models to complete the job.

Murano Bijoux and More Paseo Herencia Aruba



-- We found this unique store in Aruba: the Authentic Murano Glass jewelry and decorations, from Murano- Italy, to Aruba.

"Murano Glass" is only made on the island of Murano. Murano is one of the islands that compose Venice, "Venezia" in Italian.

Murano Bijoux and More is the first and only store with the concept of Murano home decorations and jewelry in the Caribbean. They have a selection of authentic murano art to make your house look spectacular, and fine jewelry made of glass, using many ancient techniques from the best glass masters in Venice/Italy.

The manager, Esmeralda

Saetta, came with this idea since she has an Italian background, she has worked for years in the tourism business in Aruba, but now she wanted



to start a new project with her family, and at the same time honor part of her heritage.

They bring to Aruba the best brands from Murano, such

gold or silver foil to the glass mixture and/or adding minerals such as zinc for white, cobalt for blue, manganese for violet, and so on, the glass is not painted, that's why it never will change color.

Murano Bijoux and More is a piece of Venice in Aruba.

Location: Paseo Herencia Mall, local C-10.

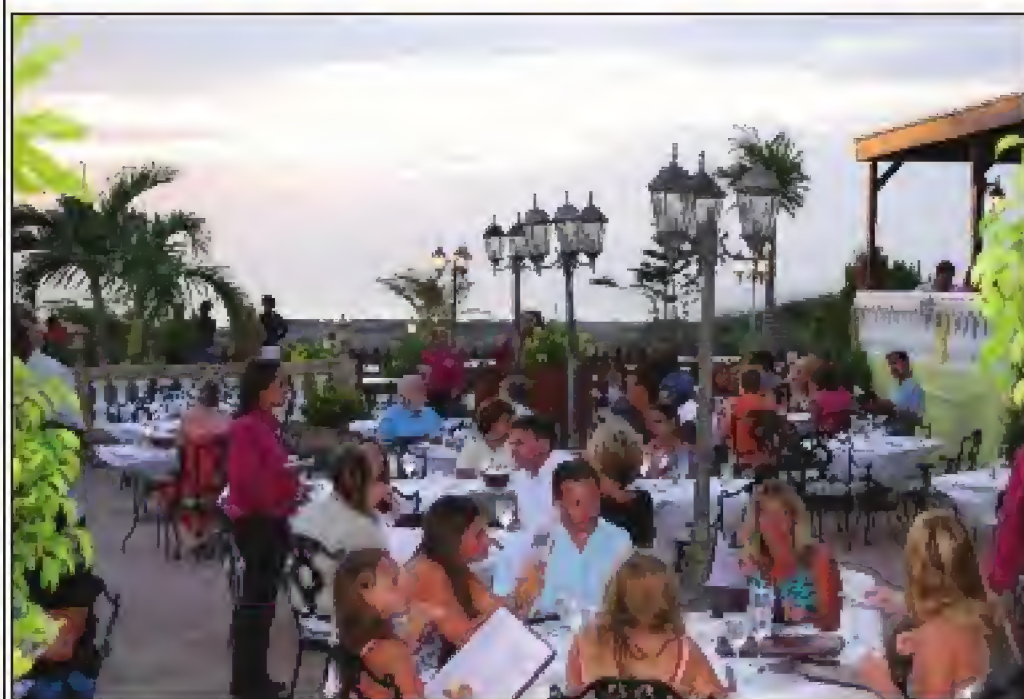
Contact: muranoaruba@gmail.com
facebook.com/muranobijouxandmore

Open hours: Monday to

Saturday: 10.30a.m.-1.00pm and from 2.00-10.00p.m. and on Sundays from 6.00pm to 10.00pm.

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Excellent dining, charming ambiance and a breathtaking view found only at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco



The Outside Deck

-- Over twenty years ago, a very clever person had the idea of placing a cozy little restaurant on the top of the cliff adjacent to the California Lighthouse, offering the most stunning view of Aruba imaginable. La Trattoria el Faro Blanco took over the location some years ago, and the restaurant's quaint trappings, superb selection and amenable staff has made it a one of the island's most popular dining

spots ever since.

Savoring the sight of a spectacular Aruban sunset and the tiered layout of the eatery also makes it the ideal spot for marking a special occasion, such as an anniversary or a marriage proposal, as well as a perfect venue for weddings or a celebratory party. An extensive and diverse menu and wine list allows those planning a special festivity will be able to devise a memorable event

and management is ready and willing to help you stay within your budget.

Many have taken note of this singular location as the place to go for that memorable romantic meal, and their reservation staff reports a waiting list for the rail tables that offer the best unobstructed view, recommending reservations well in advance if this is important to you.

The restaurant is now open from early in the day for refreshments, and is the perfect

lunch stop while touring, serving from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, after which visitors can enjoy a light snack from their Pizza Mini Menu until 6:00 PM when they officially open for dinner, until 11:00 PM.

All these aspects of charming surroundings, dining al fresco with a breathtaking view



(or in their enclosed air-conditioned dining room, if you prefer) and fine food makes La Trattoria El Faro the single dining experience that must not be missed before departing Aruba. **Reservations can be made by calling 586-0786 or 586-0787, or via e-mail link at their website, www.aruba-latrattoria.com, where you can peruse their latest menu, as Chef Alberto is always devising some tasty new specialty to take advantage of what is fresh for the season.**

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Swimming: Golden night for South Africa at world champs



South Africa's Cameron Van Der Burgh (L) celebrates with third-placed South Africa's Giulio Zorzi after winning the final of the men's 50-metre breaststroke swimming event in the FINA World Championships.

BARCELONA (AFP) - South Africa won three medals -- including two golds -- on Wednesday at swimming's world championships while US teenage star Missy Franklin picked up her third gold in Barcelona.

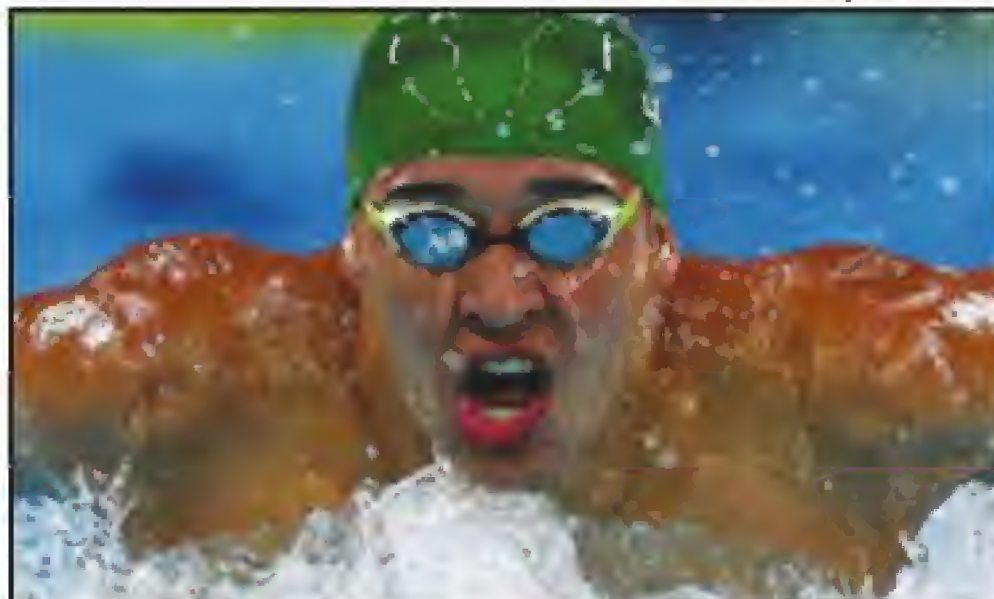
After Chad le Clos won the men's 200m butterfly final -- exactly a year to the day since taking the Olympic title -- South Africa's Cameron van der Burgh took gold in the men's 50m breaststroke with training partner Giulio Zorzi winning bronze.

Van der Burgh said the challenge facing Swimming South Africa is to now build on their Barcelona and 2012 Olympic success.

"It has been a special night for SA swimming," beamed 25-year-old Van der Burgh, who set the world record in winning the 100m breaststroke Olympic title in London.

Having been beaten into silver in the 100m final, Van der Burgh gained 50m revenge on Australia's Christian Sprenger, who this time had to settle for second in the sprint event.

China's long-distance giant Sun Yang shed tears of joy after



Olympic gold medalist Chad Le Clos of South Africa competes in the men's 200m butterfly final.

winning his second gold as he dominated the men's 800 metres freestyle final.

Having emphatically won Sunday's 400m freestyle final, the 21-year-old Sun was never troubled in Wednesday's final as he clocked 7mins 41.36 to finish more than two seconds ahead of the field.

With his victory confirmed, Sun stayed in the pool to celebrate along with the vocal Chinese supporters in the crowd and he let the tears flow during the medal ceremony.

Sun can finish the Barcelona championships with three golds with the 1500m freestyle

to come on Saturday, but has had a difficult year since splitting with his coach Zhu Zhigen and moving to Hong Kong after winning two golds at London 2012.

With Michael Phelps now retired, Missy Franklin is rapidly becoming the USA's swim star as the 18-year-old quadruple Olympic champion powered to her third title with a commanding display in the women's 200m freestyle final.

Franklin withdrew from Wednesday evening's 50m backstroke semi-finals to concentrate on the freestyle final in

the same session and the move paid off as she added to her wins in the 4x100m freestyle relay and 100m backstroke.

The US teen still has the medley and 4x200m relays, plus the 200m backstroke and 100m freestyle heats, which start on Thursday morning.

There promises to be a battle royal in the men's 100m freestyle with Olympic champion Nathan Adrian the fastest into Thursday's final, having clocked 47.95secs with Australia's defending world champion James Magnussen fourth fastest.

SPORTS

Racing: Toronado pounces late to deny Dawn Approach



CHICHESTER (AFP) - Toronado pounced fast and late to deny his arch rival Dawn Approach in the Group One Sussex Stakes at Glorious Goodwood on Wednesday.

The mile feature was the third instalment of the two colts' private rivalry this season, with Dawn Approach sent off the odds-on favourite to make it 3-0.

The Godolphin star, trained in Ireland by Jim Bolger, had got the better of Toronado in the English 2,000 Guineas and last time out at Royal Ascot.

And with Kevin Manning in the saddle Dawn Approach had the upper hand as he hit the front down the straight, with Richard Hughes on Toronado yet to make his move, four lengths back in third.

Hughes had been biding his time and once Dawn Approach went for broke he summoned a decisive late burst from Toronado, who

flew past the hapless Manning to win by half a length.

"That was very sweet...it was a great race and he was very brave, he's brilliant," Hughes, whose father-in-law Richard Hannon trains the winner, told Channel 4 television.

Hannon said: "Revenge is sweet I suppose, but they are two great horses."

"Richard Hughes said the other morning when he worked him that he was the best he had ever ridden. We've had some good horses, but he's very good."

Victory will have been even sweeter for Hannon as earlier in the season Bolger poked fun at Toronado's name saying he would never have called a horse after a clapped out coupe that was taken off the market in 1992 adding back then he was driving a Mercedes Benz.

The pair could clash again in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes over their preferred mile trip at Ascot's Champions Day in October.

MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
TAMPA	64	43	.598	--
BOSTON	64	44	.593	0.5
BALTIMORE	59	48	.551	5.0
YANKEES	55	51	.519	8.5
TORONTO	49	57	.462	14.5

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	61	45	.575	--
CLEVELAND	58	48	.547	3.0
KANSAS	52	51	.505	7.5
MINNESOTA	45	58	.437	14.5
CHICAGO	40	64	.385	20.0

West	W	L	Pct	GB
OAKLAND	63	44	.589	--
TEXAS	58	49	.542	5.0
SEATTLE	50	56	.472	12.5
LA ANGELES	48	57	.457	14.0
HOUSTON	35	70	.333	27.0

National League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTA	62	45	.579	--
WASHINGTON	52	56	.481	10.5
PHILADELPHIA	50	56	.472	11.5
NY METS	48	56	.462	12.5
MIAMI	40	65	.381	21.0


Central	W	L	Pct	GB
PITTSBURGH	64	42	.604	--
ST. LOUIS	62	43	.590	1.5
CINCINNATI	59	49	.546	6.0
CHICAGO	48	58	.453	16.0
MILWAUKEE	46	61	.430	18.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
DODGERS	57	48	.543	--
ARIZONA	54	52	.509	3.5
COLORADO	51	57	.472	7.5
SAN DIEGO	50	58	.463	8.5
SAN FRANCISCO	46	59	.438	11.0

x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ



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weekends

Tennis: US Open boosts prize money to record \$34 million

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - US Open prize money will jump to a record \$34.3 million this year and could reach a record \$36.9 million, the US Tennis Association (USTA) announced on Wednesday.

The figures are higher than the planned record boost announced last March and represent a jump of at least 37% and as much as 43% for second- and third-round losers compared to last year, when prize money totalled \$25.5 million.

The year's final Grand Slam is set to begin August 26 on the Flushing Meadows hardcourts.

Three months ago, the



USTA announced the US Open prize money would reach \$33.6 million in its 40th year of equal prize money for men and women as part of a five-year deal that will see prize money total \$50 million by 2017.

The men's and women's singles champions will each receive \$2.6 million, the largest one-event payout in tennis history and a 37 percent boost from last year.

Another \$2.6 million is available in bonus money depending on how the eventual winner performs in pre-US Open events.

A US Open singles runner-up will receive \$1.3 million while semi-final losers will receive \$650,000 and losers in the quarter-finals will take home \$325,000.

Losing in the fourth round will still bring \$165,000 with \$93,000 to third-round losers, \$53,000 to those who go out in the second round and \$32,000 for those who fail to win their first match.

NFL: Changes aimed at boosting Pro Bowl popularity



NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - The National Football League announced several major changes to the Pro Bowl all-star game on Wednesday in hopes of boosting interest in the annual talent showcase played in Hawaii.

The league and its players union revealed that the long-time format of teams from the National and American conferences is being scrapped in favor of a draft format assigning players to different squads.

Hall of Fame former receivers Jerry Rice and Deion Sanders will serve as alumni captains, selecting the two rosters in a draft format with help from two fans from the fantasy gridiron game played on the NFL's website.

Fans, coaches and players will vote to decide the pool of talent available to draft for the 2014 Pro Bowl on January 22 with the game to be played four days later at Honolulu's Aloha Stadium on the Sunday before the Super Bowl.

In addition to the new roster format, gridiron rules have been altered for the Pro Bowl, including no kickoffs. A coin toss will decide which team gets the ball first and the ball will be placed at a team's 25-

yard line after scoring plays by opponents.

Possession of the ball will change after each quarter, with only 35 seconds to run plays rather than the usual 40-second play clock.

Teams will each have 43 players, with no more kick return specialist selected. Instead, each team will have an extra defensive back selected.

Teams will be allowed to play more sophisticated defensive alignments, after previously being restricted to man-to-man coverages.

In the final two minutes of every quarter, the clock will stop if the offensive unit does not gain at least one yard, forcing teams to attempt to gain yardage in the final plays of each quarter.

The new ideas were put forth by NFL Players Association president Dominique Foxworth and in some cases the Pro Bowl could be used as a test case for studying broader use of the new ideas.

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell had been looking for ways to bolster the Pro Bowl, which had become high-scoring affairs with often lackluster defense and lukewarm fan interest.

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Champions League results Results from the Champions League third qualifying round, first leg matches on Wednesday:

Molde (NOR) 1 Legia Warsaw (POL) 1

APOEL (CYP) 1 Maribor (SLO) 1

Ludogorets (BUL) 2 Partizan

Belgrade (SRB) 1

Salzburg (AUT) 1 Fenerbahce (TUR) 1

Celtic (SCO) 1 Elfsborg (SWE) 0

Played Tuesday:

Shakhter Karagandy (KAZ) 3 Skenderbeu (ALB) 0

Austria Vienna (AUT) 1 Hafnarfjörður (ISL) 0

Nomme Kalju (EST) 0 Viktoria Plzen (CZE) 4

Dynamo Tbilisi (GEO) 0 Steaua Bucharest (ROM) 2

Basel (SUI) 1 Maccabi Tel Aviv (ISR) 0

Nordsjaelland (DEN) 0 Zenit Saint-Petersburg (RUS) 1

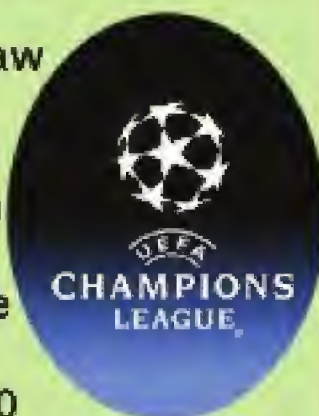
PAOK Salonika (GRE) 0 Metalist Kharkiv (UKR) 2

PSV Eindhoven (NED) 2 Zulte Waregem (BEL) 0

Dynamo Zagreb (CRO) 1 Sheriff (MDA) 0

Lyon (FRA) 1 Grasshoppers Zurich (SUI) 0

(Second leg matches to be played August 6 and 7)



Baseball: A-Rod among nine to be banned



NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez and eight others will be banned by Major League Baseball this week in a major doping scandal, the New York Daily News reported Wednesday.

The newspaper reported that unnamed sources said major league officials told players union leaders of their plans at a meeting Tuesday at the union's Manhattan offices.

Rodriguez was among several players who allegedly obtained performance enhancing drugs from a Florida health clinic, Biogenesis, in a scandal revealed six months ago.

Most of the players involved will be suspended for 50 games, about the remainder of the regular season for most clubs, but some face longer bans for interfering in Major League Baseball's investigation into the clinic and doping by players, including lying to investigators.

Thus far, none have tested positive under Major League Baseball's anti-doping test program, toughened in recent years after complaints from US lawmakers.

If the suspensions are handed down, it would be the most comprehensive doping ban imposed by a sport that has seen several stars admit to doping and such icons as US home run king Barry Bonds and pitching legend Roger Clemens escape doping charges in court cases but only after their legacies were tainted and the sport took a black eye with fans.

Not all players linked to Biogenesis will be suspended, according to the report, because the probe could not uncover enough evidence to prove wrongdoing.

Some players have already been suspended for their links to the clinic, including Milwaukee slugger Ryan Braun, Oakland pitcher Bartolo Colon and Toronto outfielder Melky Cabrera.

David Cornwell, an attorney for Rodriguez, said the Yankees third baseman will appeal any ban.

The report said players were expected to inform Major League Baseball of an intent to challenge the bans by Wednesday.

The report said investigators

have overwhelming evidence that Rodriguez used performance-enhancing drugs in 2010, 2011 and 2012, including hundreds of e-mails, phone records and text messages.

In 2009, "A-Rod" admitted that he had taken steroids from 2001 to 2003 while playing for the Texas Rangers, tainting what had then been seen as an undoped challenge to the major league home run record.

Evidence gathered by investigators shows Rodriguez tried to interfere with the probe by purchasing documents linking him to the clinic and intimidating witnesses, in addition to using banned drugs, according to the report.

If Rodriguez appeals his ban, Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig could invoke the seldom-used power to ban a player to preserve the integrity of the sport, bypassing the owners-union deal and putting a suspension in force immediately.

Rodriguez could appeal such a move, but Selig would be the one to hear the appeal and the process would likely take the remaining two months of the season to complete.

Among others linked to Biogenesis in evidence first obtained by Miami New Times newspaper are Yankees catcher Francisco Cervelli, Texas outfielder Nelson Cruz, Detroit shortstop Jhonny Peralta and San Diego infielder Everth Cabrera.

The Detroit Tigers obtained Boston shortstop Jose Iglesias in a three-team transfer deal on Tuesday, the eve of Wednesday's major league trade deadline, in what some saw as a signal that Peralta will be suspended.



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Phillies beat Giants to end their slump

PHILADELPHIA - Carlos Ruiz and Michael Young hit two-run homers to back John Lannan, and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the San Francisco Giants 7-3 Tuesday night to snap an eight-game losing streak. The Phillies beat the New York Mets 13-8 in their first game after the All-Star break, but scored a total of 14 in the next eight losses to drop out of contention. The defending World Series champion Giants have lost five in a row and eight of nine. They came off a 3-7 homestand that left them in last place in the NL West. With the non-waiver trade deadline approaching and neither team going anywhere, several players could be changing uniforms before the next pitch. The Giants might consider moving two-time All-Star outfielder Hunter Pence and lefty Javier Lopez.



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